



MINUTES

EGC Open Data Workgroup

9:00-9:50AM
2/11/2014
Conference Call

Attendees

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Steve Sharp	VCGI
Dan Currier	VAPDA/CVRPC
Lesley Bean	VTrans
Jim Duncan	VMC
Scott Riley	VSARA

Minutes

- **Big Picture:** Steve Sharp indicated that DII will be putting out a press release any day now for its “pilot” Open Data site (<http://data.vermont.gov>). Due to the geodata handling limitations of Socrata, the only geodataset available at this state is the 2012 VTrans Crash Data (which had to be converted to MS Excel format for it to render properly...thanks VTrans!). Steve said he asked what DII’s plans are in terms of open data governance, standards, and policies. The response was that they will be making a recommendation when the Socrata pilot contract is over (~ September 2014).
- **Short-Term Enhancements:** Steve reviewed status of [short-term enhancements](#) effort. The current focus is on U-19 (“more info” page), U-13 (“imagery” & “imagery services” page), and U-30 (custom download). The Custom Download geoprocessing module is coming along nicely (according to Steve), but there is still more work to be done to limit large extracts and integrate into VCGI website.
- **Platform Testing:** We were able to engage the VT “hacker community” to help us test CKAN. Thanks to Bill Morris for conducting the testing of CKAN by setting up a demo site (<http://data.geosprocket.org/>). Tabulated results are available on the Workgroup’s page (<https://outside.vermont.gov/sites/egcgeo/opendatawg/>).
- **Wait or Jump?** Some participants were concerned about scope creep at the previous Workgroup meeting (1/14/2014); primarily are focus on integration into a state Open Data Portal. Steve raised this issue again, asking participants what they thought about the [Workgroups current plan](#) to 1) implement short-term enhancements and 2) test platforms while the State’s Open Data Pilot (<http://data.vermont.gov>) plays itself out. Should we wait for DII’s recommendations (anticipated Sept 2014) and adjust our plans accordingly, or should we just jump now to build the new VT GeoData Portal based on the requirements (users stories) we’ve already identified and ranked? Lesley and Jim felt we should jump now, pick a platform (CKAN/Geoportal?), and build the new VT GeoData Portal. Steve expressed his concern that having a geodata.vermont.gov AND a data.vermont.gov may be



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hard to justify unless we have good reason. Lesley, Jim, and Scott suggested that we've already done enough testing and collected enough evidence to make this argument. Steve suggested that we conduct a "straw poll" of the EGC to get their view on "wait or jump".

Action Items

- **Big Picture:** Continue to participate in the State's Open Data efforts.
- **Short-Term Enhancements:** Keep focused on U-19, U-13, and U-30 "enhancements".
- **COTS/Platform Testing:** Move to install/config ESRI GeoPortal Server for testing.
- **Wait or Jump?** Steve will create/release a quick "straw poll" to the EGC asking them if we should jump to build a geodata portal (based on the requirements already identified) now OR wait until Sept 2014 to determine if we can dovetail with the State's Open Data Portal.

Next Meeting: 3/11/2014 (9AM conf call)